

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 18, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 133

Introduced by Assembly Member Torlakson
(Coauthor: Senator Karnette)

February 24, 2000

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 133—Relative to traffic congestion.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 133, as amended, Torlakson. Traffic congestion.

This measure would request the Department of the California Highway Patrol to organize a California Traffic Relief Panel, consisting of the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, as Chair, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation, the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Transportation, the Director of Transportation, a representative of a Certified Unified Program Agency selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a representative of a congestion management agency selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a representative of a regional transportation planning agency selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a representative of an air quality management district selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, and, *when conducting symposiums in northern California, as specified*, a representative of the California State Automobile

Association, and, when conducting symposiums in southern California, as specified, a representative of the Automobile Club of Southern California to conduct a series of townhall symposiums to identify local traffic congestion problems and solutions.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, California's citizens and businesses
2 depend on an adequate highway transportation system
3 for mobility and economic prosperity, and California is at
4 the heart of Pacific Rim commerce and North American
5 Free Trade Area commerce, which are both dependent
6 on an adequate highway transportation system; and

7 WHEREAS, Over the next 10 years, California's
8 population is expected to increase by 18 percent to a
9 population of 40,000,000, the consumption and
10 production of goods is projected to grow by as much as 25
11 percent, and the number of vehicle miles traveled will
12 increase by 27 percent; and

13 WHEREAS, California currently has 1,472 congested
14 freeway miles, and California drivers spend in excess of
15 300,000 hours per day in congestion, resulting in delay
16 costs of \$10,000,000 per day to the traveling public and the
17 goods movement industry; and

18 WHEREAS, Traffic congestion creates pollution that
19 impacts both air and water quality, and California is home
20 to four of the nation's worst urban air quality areas; and

21 WHEREAS, California's transportation system is
22 coming under increasing strain from a growing
23 population, increased per capita driving, and urban
24 expansion, all of which result in growing traffic
25 congestion; and

26 WHEREAS, The increasing congestion and the
27 resulting loss of mobility reduces both the quality of life
28 for California's residents and the economic health of the
29 state; and

30 WHEREAS, Solutions to traffic congestion cannot rely
31 solely upon additional roadway expansion projects, but
32 will require multidimensional solutions from many

1 entities and the public for the safe and most efficient use
2 of California's highway system; now, therefore, be it

3 *Resolved, by the Assembly of the State of California,*
4 *the Senate thereof concurring,* That it is in the best
5 interests of the people of the State of California to solicit
6 and consider a wide range of information and solutions for
7 traffic congestion relief from the public, public officials,
8 and interested private organizations, and to identify and
9 facilitate the implementation of viable traffic congestion
10 relief measures; and be it further

11 *Resolved,* That a series of townhall symposiums be
12 conducted in areas of the state suffering from acute traffic
13 congestion to identify and facilitate the implementation
14 of traffic congestion reduction solutions; and be it further

15 *Resolved,* That the Department of the California
16 Highway Patrol organize and administer the California
17 Traffic Relief Panel, consisting of the Commissioner of
18 the California Highway Patrol, who shall serve as Chair,
19 the Chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation,
20 the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Transportation,
21 the Director of Transportation, a representative of a
22 Certified Unified Program Agency selected by the
23 Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, a
24 representative of a congestion management agency
25 selected by the Commissioner of the California Highway
26 Patrol, a representative of a regional transportation
27 planning agency selected by the Commissioner of the
28 California Highway Patrol, a representative of an air
29 quality management district selected by the
30 Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, and,
31 *when conducting symposiums in the San Francisco Bay*
32 *area, the County of Sacramento, and in other Central*
33 *Valley locations,* a representative of the California State
34 Automobile Association, *and, when conducting*
35 *symposiums in the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, and*
36 *San Diego and the Inland Empire, a representative of the*
37 *Automobile Club of Southern California* to conduct a
38 series of townhall symposiums to identify local traffic
39 congestion problems and traffic congestion reduction
40 solutions; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the functions of the California Traffic
2 Relief Panel may include, but need not be limited to, all
3 of the following:

4 (a) Conducting townhall symposiums in the San
5 Francisco Bay area, in the Counties of Sacramento, Los
6 Angeles, Orange, and San Diego, in the Central Valley,
7 including, but not limited to, the City of Fresno and its
8 surroundings, and in the area containing the Cities of
9 Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ontario, which is
10 commonly known as the Inland Empire.

11 (b) Inviting the participation of state and local
12 officials, private organizations, *large private employers*,
13 and the public at large.

14 (c) Examining local traffic congestion problems and
15 soliciting both short-term and long-term solutions to the
16 issuer.

17 (d) Examining and seeking ways to mitigate traffic
18 congestion caused by accidents, natural disasters,
19 hazardous material incidents, and maintenance and
20 construction projects.

21 (e) Preparing a report of the symposium proceedings
22 that will be provided *on or before July 1, 2001*, to the
23 Legislature, the Governor, and agencies involved in
24 traffic-related planning, project planning, and traffic
25 management; and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
27 transmit copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of
28 the California Highway Patrol, the Chair of the Senate
29 Committee on Transportation, the Chair of the Assembly
30 Committee on Transportation, the Director of
31 Transportation, and other members serving on the
32 California Traffic Relief Panel pursuant to this measure.

